

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2787
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2003
EXCISE DUTY EVASION
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the companies whose excise duty evasion, as found by the Government to the tune of Rs. more than 500 crores, are under judicial scrutiny due to the appeal filed by the companies;
- (b) the details of the expeditious mechanism for the legal side of the Government has been worked out for disposing such matters at the earliest in the greater interest of revenue mobilisation of the country;
- (c) whether any top personnels of the Customs Department or the Finance Ministry are known to be involved who joined as Advisors or the Consultants of these companies after their retirement from the Finance Ministry; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK):

- (a) The details of the companies against whom the evasion of excise duty of Rs. 500 crore and above was confirmed and the order is under judicial scrutiny due to the appeal filed by the companies are as given below:
 - (1) M/s. ITC Ltd.
 - (2) M/s. GAIL.
- (b) Government takes all legal measures for expeditious disposal of appeals pending with various judicial authorities. Directorate of Legal Affairs under Central Board of Excise and Customs has been set up for day-to-day monitoring of cases pending with Supreme Court.
- (c) and (d) Government has not granted sanction, as required under CCS. (Pension) Rules, for any top personnels who served in the Central Board of Excise and Customs or Finance Ministry and known to be involved in the above mentioned cases, to join as Advisors or the Consultants of the said companies, after their retirement.